Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be in charge of your family, especially your little brother or sister? Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be the President of the United States so you could be in charge of everyone in America? Have you ever imagined what it would be like to be in charge of everyone in the world, to be the king of everything and everyone? Well, according to the Bible, there is a King in charge of everything and everyone. I wonder if He is your King?

According to the Bible, God is the good, holy, loving creator of the world and everything in it. He made you, me, and everyone and everything else. That makes Him the only one qualified to be the King (Revelation 4:11).

"Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created." (Revelation 4:11)

Since God made us, He is our King and we should do whatever He tells us to do in the Bible.

The problem is that we don't like doing what God tells us to do. We have all said no to God the King. We don't want God to be our King. Instead we try to be our own king. We deny Him, we ignore Him, and reject Him. We act like we are the king and He is not. The Bible calls that sin (Romans 3:10-12).

"None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one." (Romans 3:10-12)

What do you think that God, the real King will do about this? Well, remember that God is the creator, and He is the only TRUE King. He will not let us continue to tell Him no and reject Him. He will not let us continue to try to be our own king. God is angry when we refuse to obey Him as King.

One day, according to the Bible, God will show the world that He is the only true King, and He will punish all those that have been telling Him no, and put them out of His kingdom forever. We all deserve His punishment (Hebrews 9:27).

"And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment." (Hebrews 9:27)

It sounds like bad news for everyone, and it is. But, there is hope. Out of His great love for us, even though we have told Him no, God sent His Son Jesus into this world to take our punishment so that we could be forgiven.

"For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit." (1 Peter 3:18)

God sent Jesus to rescue us from the punishment that we should get. Jesus never said no to God. He always treated Him like the one TRUE King. He didn't deserve God's punishment, but God punished Jesus instead of us. Jesus died, was buried, and then three days later, God brought Him back to life and made Him the King of everything.

"This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses... having been exalted to the right hand of God" (Acts 2:32-33)

Then Jesus left our world and went back to be with God the Father in heaven. The Bible says that one day Jesus will come back to this world to punish everyone that is still telling God no and trying to be their own king. At the same time, He will welcome His friends into His good kingdom forever. This great news means that we can be forgiven for telling God no, and can be welcomed into the kingdom of God forever as His children (1 Peter 1:3).

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead (1 Peter 1:3)

This means that there are only 2 ways to live:

The first way is to keep saying "no" to God and acting like your own king. If you do that, you are sinning against God, and one day, God will punish you forever.

<u>The second way</u> is to stop saying "no" to God, and ask Him to forgive you instead, and make Jesus your one TRUE King. Then you can live with Jesus as your King, doing what He wants you to do according to the Bible, trusting that He took your punishment...

that His Spirit lives in you, transforming your heart day by day to make it more like His, and...

that He will one day return to welcome you into His good kingdom forever.

Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him. (John 3:36)

You can start living with Jesus as your King TODAY. You can do that by talking to God and telling Him <u>sorry</u>, thank you, and please.

- 1. You can say **sorry** to God for pretending to be your own king and telling Him no.
- 2. You can say **thank you** to God for sending His Son Jesus to die for you and to take your punishment.
- 3. You can ask God to **please** forgive you, and to help you to live with Jesus as your King.

Parents:

If you or your children have any questions about what you have read regarding the Gospel, or would like to talk to someone further, please contact us. We'd love to talk to you more about what the Gospel means with you.





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* Adapted from Two Ways to Live, The Choice We All Face.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." - John 3:16